[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*): May I know from Mr. Natesa Aiyar if he is in the habit of inspecting roads after showers?

MR. K. V. NATESA AIYAR (*Chief Engineer*): Yes, I have inspected many times.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*): Has he not found roads in the Trivandrum town unfit after a rain?

MR. K. V. NATESA AIYAR (*Chief Engineer*): I do not know of any such in the Trivandrum town. I know of some elsewhere in the Trivandrum taluk and in some other taluks.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*): I wish to know if the Chief Engineer and the Executive Engineers in charge of divisions journey on foot in their circuits, or on horseback.

MR. K. V. NATESA AIYAR (*Chief Engineer*): We are not ordinarily riding on horses now after motor cars have come into use. Wherever it is necessary to ride, we find horses for the purpose. I have been walking miles and miles recently and I have got this throat trouble as a consequence thereof. (*Laughter.*)

I beg to add that there is a correction in the demand. This sum of Rs. 5,400 for the additional staff is the cost per annum. The amount required for the remaining months of the year as explained by me already is only Rs. 2,250 including the pay of a 2nd grade Supervisor. The sum to be voted by the Council is only Rs. 1,625. The total demand to be voted is thus only Rs. 59,995, (Rs. 58,370 for works and Rs. 1,625 for staff).

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

DEMAND XXII.—MISCELLANEOUS—BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I beg to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 31,129 on account of the expenditure connected with the participation of the State in the British Empire Exhibition, 1924.

In 1922 the Government after a careful consideration of the matter decided to participate in the British Empire Exhibition and communicated its decision to the Madras Government and provided a sum of Rs. 5,000 in the budget estimate for 1098. This was voted by the present Legislative Council at its first sitting held in July, 1922.

MR. C. SANKARA MENON (*Quilon*): Was the matter referred to the Economic Development Board?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): This question was not specifically referred to that Board.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): Was the British Empire Exhibition referred to in the budget?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It was not specifically mentioned in the budget for 1098. The usual heading—Madras and other exhibitions—was continued. The intention was to utilise the money for the Empire Exhibition.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): Was it explained in the budget?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not remember.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Was not a similar provision existing in the budget of the previous years when there was no Empire Exhibition?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Probably the same heading was given in the budgets for the previous years.

Later on, during the session of the Council held in April, 1923, a supplementary grant of Rs. 7,500 was asked for—Rs. 6,000 on account of collection of exhibits and Rs. 1,500 on account of a preliminary exhibition to be held in Trivandrum. Opportunity was then taken to explain to the Council the objects of this Government in participating in the British Empire Exhibition and to lay before the Council a brief account of the steps till then taken in connection with it.

The matter was discussed by the Council and the supplementary grant was allowed. Including this, the total allotment for 1098 was Rs. 12,500, but an expenditure of Rs. 4,291 only was actually incurred in that year and the balance lapsed at the close of the year.

The committee of officials and non-officials appointed to work out the details in regard to the participation of the State in the Exhibition thought that Travancore might have to incur a gross expenditure of a lakh of rupees and estimated that, out of this, half a lakh might be recovered, leaving the other half as the net irrecoverable expenditure. It was thought that this expenditure would spread over 1099 and 1100, and a sum of Rs. 50,000 was provided in the budget for 1099 on account of the Exhibition, including the cost of the preliminary exhibition to be held in Trivandrum. This was voted by the Council during its sitting in July, 1923. The preliminary exhibition was held in Trivandrum from the 5th to the 20th October, 1923. It is hardly necessary to mention that it was pronounced a great success and that it was a great eye-opener in respect of the large scope that exists for building up important industries in the country and trade with the outside world in a variety of articles, among which finished products play a prominent part. A final selection of the exhibits was made by the committee and the selected articles have been packed, insured and shipped to England. The producers of these articles have had to be financed to the extent of about Rs. 18,546. Most of this, if not the whole, is recoverable in due course.

From the accounts received from the Convener of the Committee, it is seen that out of the allotment of Rs. 50,000, an expenditure of Rs. 37,448 has already been incurred as follows:—

		Rs.
Expenditure for the British Empire Exhibition	...	12,151
Expenditure for the Preliminary Exhibition	...	6,740

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

		Rs.
Travelling allowance paid to non-official members of the Committee	...	571
Amount arranged to be placed at the disposal of Dr. Kunjan Pillai in London for expenses connected with the handling of exhibits in London and preparation, decoration, etc., of the Travancore Court, securing glass cases, racks, etc., arranging exhibits and meeting other incidental expenses.		15,268
Passage money (including railway fare) and warm clothing to Dr. Kunjan Pillai: £178 at Bh. Rs. 15 per £	...	2,718
Total...	...	37,448
The balance available is	...	12,552

A sum of Rs. 3,288 was realised by the sale of tickets for the preliminary exhibition, auction sale of sheds put up in connection with it, etc. This amount has been credited to Government and cannot be utilised for expenses on account of the exhibition.

The following items aggregating Rs. 36,113 remain to be paid:—

			Rs.
(1)	On account of the British Empire Exhibition	...	34,566
(2)	On account of the Preliminary Exhibition	...	1,547

I have got the details and I shall mention them if necessary.

PRESIDENT: You had better read the details to the House. They are important.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

British Empire Exhibition.

			Rs.
(i)	Rent for space £1,504	...	22,963
(ii)	Payment to private exhibitors for exhibits given by them	...	7,197
(iii)	Packing, shipping and insurance charges	...	3,405
(iv)	Amount due to the Conservator of Forests for the collection of forest exhibits	...	600
(v)	Prices of certain articles of furniture made in the P. W. D. Workshops, Trivandrum	...	491
			34,656

Preliminary Exhibition.

Payments outstanding for charges already incurred	...	1,547
Total	...	36,113

ITEM I (i). The rates of rent for space are 20 shillings per square foot of floor space and £ 2 per linear foot of wall space 10 feet high. Calculated at this rate, the rent for 1,224 sq. ft. of floor space and 140 ft.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of wall space (the area allotted to the State in the Exhibition grounds) comes to Sr. Rs. 22,963. It was thought that the time for payment of the rent was at the close of the Exhibition, but the Commissioner for India has been pressing for payment of the rent which is already overdue, as under the rules framed by the London Committee the same should have been paid within two months of the date of the allotment of space and the payment cannot be further postponed.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): May I know the amount already spent on account of the exhibition.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The amount spent was Rs. 37,448.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): How was the amount spent?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have got details. I shall read the various items of expenditure that has already been incurred.

PRESIDENT: If you want, the items will be read, Mr. Madhava Variar.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): It is not quite clear.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I will explain it. We have already spent a certain amount out of the allotment sanctioned. The amount actually comes to Rs. 37,448. I have got the details here.

PRESIDENT: Please state them.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY (*Changanachery* cum *Minachil*): What will be the total estimate?

PRESIDENT: Please give the details that you have got.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The expenditure comes under two heads, namely, (1) the expenditure British Empire Exhibition and (2) that for the Preliminary Exhibition.

Expenditure for the British Empire Exhibition.

	Rs.
I. (i) Paid to Superintendent, School of Arts, on account of ivory, kuftgari, silver and brass articles supplied...	4,321
(ii) Paid to Mr. A. M. Muttunayakam Pillai on account of lace and embroidery articles purchased ...	4,132
(iii) Paid to the Director of Public Instruction for expenses connected with the collection of educational exhibits ...	546
(iv) Paid to the Conservator of Forests for the collection of forest exhibits ...	586
(v) Paid to the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries for the collection of agricultural exhibits ...	842

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

	Rs.
(vi) Paid to the Textile Expert for the purchase of textile exhibits ...	70
(vii) Cost of 50 photographs and their negatives showing different stages of the coconut industry ...	839
(viii) Miscellaneous expenditure incurred by the Convener, Exhibition Committee, in connection with the despatch of exhibits from Trivandrum to Quilon, making packing cases, glass boxes, telegram charges, etc. ...	512
Total ...	12,151

Expenditure for the Preliminary Exhibition.

II. (i) Cost of sheds, decoration, lighting, sanitary arrangements, medals, etc. ...	6,165
(ii) Transport charges of exhibits ...	675
Total ...	6,740
III. Travelling allowances paid to non-official members of the Committee ...	571

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY (*Changanachery* cum *Minachil*): May I know whether all the exhibits belong to the State?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, some belong to the owners; we have advanced one-third of the value of the exhibits to the owners on the security of the exhibits.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to give us an idea as to the nature of the exhibits that have been selected and sent?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have got the catalogue here. I can circulate it. If the House has the patience to hear I will read it.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know whether this demand covers the deputation expenditure of Dr. Kunjan Pillai?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. I am coming to that later on.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Was this demand anticipated, please?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Which demand, please?

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): The present demand.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Exhibition Committee estimated the cost at Rs. 50,000. That was provided for and has been found insufficient. Hence the demand for a supplementary grant.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY (*Changanachery cum Minachil*): Was the deputation also included in the original estimate?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No; originally it was not included.

PRESIDENT: Please proceed.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have already read out most of the items of expenditure actually incurred.

PRESIDENT: You may read out the rest.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

	Rs.
IV. Amount arranged to be placed at the disposal of Dr. Kunjan Pillai in London for expenses connected with the handling of exhibits in London and preparation, decoration, etc., of the Travancore Court, securing glass cases, racks, etc., arranging exhibits and meeting other incidental expenses ...	15,268
V. Passage money (including railway fare) and warm clothing to Dr. Kunjan Pillai—£ 178 at Bh. Rs. 15 per £ ...	2,718
The total of items I to V comes to ...	37,448

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY (*Changanachery cum Minachil*): When did the idea of deputing a Travancorean strike the Government?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It was suggested to the Government by the Exhibition Committee.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY (*Changanachery cum Minachil*): That is, after the last Council?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Chief Secretary give us an idea of the work Dr. Kunjan Pillai is going to do at the Exhibition besides being an exhibitor?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. He has to arrange the exhibits, see to the decoration of the courts, erect stalls, engage salesmen, etc.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Besides the work of the exhibition itself?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He will make enquiries in regard to trade. He will have to explain to enquirers the features of the exhibits in their respective stalls.

The amount already incurred is Rs. 37,448. The balance available is only Rs. 12,552 out of the allotment of Rs. 50,000. Then I am coming to the amount which has already fallen due but has not been paid. The following items aggregating Rs. 36,113 remain to be paid, over and above the amount already paid. I have divided the expenditure, under two heads—the expenditure on account of the British Empire Exhibition, and the expenditure on account of the preliminary exhibition. The expenditure on account of the British Empire Exhibition comes to Rs. 34,566.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): What was the rent originally fixed?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There has been no change in the rate of rent. We are trying to effect a reduction if possible. Besides the items of expenditure already incurred and which have fallen due and which must be paid, provision has to be made for the following items which will fall due in the course of 1099, *viz*:—

		Rs.
1.	Dr. Kunjan Pillai's pay for 6 months ...	3,600
2.	,, Deputation allowance for the above period ...	720
3.	,, Boarding and lodging allowance at £30 per month for the above period —£180 ...	2,748
	Total ...	7,068

It is also necessary to provide a sum of Rs. 500 on account of contribution to private local exhibitions that may be held in the course of the year. Thus the total additional expenditure for the year is Rs. 43,681. As stated above, the balance available out of the sanctioned allotment of Rs. 50,000 is Rs. 12,552 only. Deducting this, the additional allotment required is Rs. 31,129. Hence it is proposed to move this Council to vote this as a supplementary grant.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Is the Chief Secretary in a position to tell us what corresponding amounts are estimated to be spent on account of the British Empire Exhibition by the States of Cochin, Mysore, Hyderabad and Baroda?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have not got figures for all these States. Mysore has allotted two lakhs of rupees. I do not know what Cochin has spent. I could not get the figures.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to tell us whether Cochin has appointed a special officer?

MR. R KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no official information.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know further whether there are any Travancore officers in England and, if so, how many?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is Mr. Gopala Menon who is undergoing a course of training.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Training in what?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Training in banking and commercial subjects.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Are there any more Travancore officers in England?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are retired officers. There are medical officers in Scotland and England studying medicine.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): I oppose this demand. This question with regard to the exhibition was not thoroughly discussed in this Council. When there was a demand for a supplementary grant with regard to the arrangement of the local exhibition, this question was not discussed and the Council granted the demand on the impression that the Council had already allowed a grant before. But the Council was under a misapprehension at that time. Last time when the Budget was discussed we had no time to discuss that question. So the whole amount for the British Empire Exhibition may be taken to have been spent without the express sanction of this Council. I am not convinced how the British Empire Exhibition is going to benefit our industry or commerce. It has been said in the last Council, and in this Council too, that the Empire Exhibition will benefit us very much industrially and commercially. That is only a statement which is to be proved adequately. I think the exhibition is only a fashion or entertainment in England and we should not spend a lakh of rupees for the Exhibition. It will not help us materially, and besides the amount which we have to spend on exhibits and on tents, for the rent to the tent we have to pay Rs. 22,000.

PRESIDENT: It is not a tent, it is a building.

MR. M. R MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): For the rent alone we have to pay Rs. 22,000 and for the decoration some more money, and how can the expenditure for the rent and decoration therefore help us industrially? And what are the articles sent to England?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): May I point out that a portion of the rent may be recovered from the private exhibitors? And if the exhibition as a whole shows a profit, we are also entitled to a portion of it.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): We do not know definitely what articles are sent to England. As far as I know they are all trivial and they will not fetch any profit even if they are advertised. On these grounds I oppose the demand for any additional expenditure on the Empire Exhibition to be held in England.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): I was one of those who strongly supported the demand for the exhibition when it first came up and I do so now also. The exhibition is conducive of very great results. It is one of the greatest events in the world, all nations coming together, every nation seeing each other's articles—it is going to be one

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. C. Mammen Mappillai.]

of the greatest assets of the English nation. But, as far as we are concerned, it should not be a simple show business. We are paying through our nose for this exhibition, and we, want our money's worth. Dr. Kunjan Pillai should not be simply there as a showman having a fine gay time of it telling people that this is that and that is this and so on. This is a great opportunity that is offered to this country through Dr. Kunjan Pillai. We must get our money's worth both from him and from the exhibition itself. It is useless simply showing the people who come there our raw products such as tapioca. It should not be an advertisement to foreigners to come here and exploit the country. That will never do. There must be something more substantial. There must be some solid results that will go to develop our industries. That is the main point. We are very backward in industry, and we have been spending a lot of money on it but till now nothing substantial has resulted. Therefore I hope that the Government will make the best use of this great opportunity that has been offered to them to utilise the services of Dr. Kunjan Pillai to the best interests of the State.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY (*Changanachery* cum *Minachil*): Sir, I was also one of those who supported the position that we should show our sympathy and make our contribution to the Empire Exhibition, but at that time I was never under the impression that the amount which would have to be spent on it would go so far, and I am afraid that further supplementary demands or other demands may be forthcoming. As for the matter of the deputation of a special officer for arranging our Exhibition in London I think it is rather a luxury than a necessity, and the arrangement could have been very well done by one of the officers who are undergoing training in England at our expenditure for specialising in a department which is closely connected with industries, exhibitions, etc., and instead of trying to make use of his presence there, the idea of sending a special responsible officer who has to do much work here for such a trivial thing is a waste of money in my opinion. But since the officer has already left us, there is no good in speaking about that matter. Still I would only enter my protest on any similar expenditure in the matter.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industries, North*): Sir, I am one of those who justified the participation of Travancore in the British Empire Exhibition for several reasons. I know that some of our fellow citizens in British India, (*louder please*) from political motives, are trying to withdraw from the British Empire Exhibition as a means of inducing the British Government to allow political concessions to the people there. Except as a mark of sympathy to our fellow subjects in British India, I do not know whether the people in Travancore have got anything to do with the political aspect of the question. So far as political concessions are concerned, we depend entirely on His Highness the Maha Raja; and what His Highness the Maha Raja is doing or refrains from doing can have no manner of connection with the Britis

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Empire Exhibition. Therefore the political aspect of the question which is so prominent in the agitation in British India does not at all come up for consideration in Travancore. There are also other considerations, *viz.*, that His Highness the Maha Raja who is a faithful and highly respected ally of the King Emperor, has, in accordance with the traditions of the Travancore State and the Royal Family, to ensure a proper and adequate representation of Travancore in any scheme in which the whole British Empire is represented. It is not doing honour to our Maha Raja or doing honour to our country when we are doing such things on a paltry scale. I must also say that I have a great faith in the advertisement value of the exhibition. We may not be able immediately to get our money value, but the whole world which is concerned in industrial matters will be assembling at the exhibition, and though one cannot know the direction in which our participation in such an exhibition may immediately help us, we can feel quite confident that such participation will eventually be of immense material help to us. Therefore, apart from the sentimental aspect of the question, I feel sure that, if only we, people in Travancore, know how to take advantage of the situation, it may be possible for us to derive advantage from this exhibition. For example, there is the ivory industry of Travancore. Every body who has seen our ivory carvings, expresses the highest admiration for them; but nobody has been able to make any commercial use of that reputation which our country has built up with regard to ivory carving. If our ivory carving industry is appreciated by a considerable section of the people and if anybody tries to push on the sale of our ivory carvings throughout the world, it is just possible that we might be able to build up a very magnificent and prosperous industry. This is only an instance out of the many that may be described. As soon as our representative returns from London we shall be able to know in which direction we may make an impression. If we are men of genuine trade instincts it may be possible for us with the advice of Doctor Kunjan Pillai so to act that the money we may expend on it will return to us several fold. Therefore on materialistic grounds we are perfectly justified in spending adequately and amply on our participation in the British Empire Exhibition, and I therefore gladly support the motion.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Sir I doubt whether it is necessary at this stage that any plea or justification or apology should be recorded with regard to our participation in the British Empire Exhibition. As business-men we have gone into it; we have voted funds for it. The principle has been accepted Under these circumstances to bring forward political motives and subjects of that kind into the discussion, I doubt whether it is to our credit Therefore I must protest against the dragging in of the subject of political motives or political terrorisation. (*Hear hear.*) If we object to it we must object to it from a purely business standpoint. We have absolutely nothing to do with political motives in regard to the demand before the House.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industries North*): I should like to know what Mr. Krishna Aiyar means.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai.]

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): If there is any suggestion or any innuendo that anybody was actuated by political motives I want to enter a protest against it. On that ground and on that ground *only* did I refer to that part of Mr. Mammen Mappillai's speech.

I object to a part of the demand. It has absolutely nothing to do with politics. It is from a purely business standpoint. The other part of the demand, that is, that relating to the deputation of Dr. Kunjan Pillai, I object to; and I object to it on two grounds. First, we need not have gone into that expenditure. We have the assurance of Mr. Krishna Pillai here that there is already a Government officer in London and that his services could have been availed of. Thus a part of the expenditure could have been saved.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I never said that his services could be utilised for this purpose.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): There is a Travancore officer and his services could be utilised in connection with the exhibition and I said, and I say, that he could have been utilised. The passage money and other incidental expenses involved in deputing an officer from here might have been saved. Whether it is a penny or a pound, it is a great saving on principle, and we have to look into it merely on a question of principle. It may be that the passage money is only Rs. 1,200 or Rs. 2,000. It is the tax-payer's money and the State is bound to conserve that money and to save as much of it as possible. Therefore, I once again say that, in place of the deputation of Dr. Kunjan Pillai, Mr. Gopala Menon might have been entrusted with the task of taking charge of the exhibits and arranging the exhibition. The State would have been a gainer by this means. That is the first principle on which I object.

The second principle is that, after incurring the expenditure, after it has become an accomplished fact, the matter is brought to us for ratification and not for the purpose of sanction. No doubt it rests with the Government to depute Dr. Kunjan Pillai, but so far as the expenses are concerned this House has a right to be consulted. It may be that the Government have not had time enough, to ask for a meeting of this Council and make a demand early enough but this is another matter. Here is a *fait accompli* and the House is asked for ratification and not for sanction. I oppose on this ground also that portion of the demand which relates to the deputation of Dr. Kunjan Pillai. So far as the rest is concerned, we have entered into a contract and we must abide by it. We have applied for a place and that place has to be paid for.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*): Mr. Krishna Aiyar has taken objection to the word "politics" in this connection. I think "politics" is a sufficiently wide term and the industrial regeneration of a country is a legitimate portion of politics.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): If it is in that Pickwickian sense, I withdraw my remarks.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*): I beg Mr. Krishna Iyar's pardon. My meaning is clear, not in a Pickwickian point of view, but in a scientific point of view. The industrial regeneration of the country is a portion of politics. I affirm once more, for my friend's satisfaction, that, taken in that light, I think that participation in a world function like the British Empire Exhibition is absolutely necessary for the industrial development of our country. There are immense facilities for such development. There are good raw materials. There is an intelligent population and there are specially trained and efficient officers who are charged with the reformation and reorganisation of industrial concerns. Dr. Kunjan Pillai who has been sent to England for this purpose is the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries, and as the House knows, he is also the President of the Economic Development Board. I can only think of one other officer who may have been deputed for the purpose and that is the Director of Industries. Anyhow Government have hit upon Dr. Kunjan Pillai, possibly because, in addition to his being the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries, he is also the President of the Economic Development Board.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Is Mr. Velu Pillai aware that Cochin has not deputed an officer for the purpose?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*): I am aware of it and I shall meet that point. As to whether Cochin's action is wise or not that is a different question. As my friend Mr. Krishna Aiyar has pointed out, there is a completed agreement. Travancore has a prestige to keep in the eyes of the world. It has got an agreement to perform with the British Empire Exhibition Committee. We have told them that we would gladly participate in the function. They have allotted their grounds to us, and several arrangements have been made and Dr. Kunjan Pillai is on his way to England. I do not think that anybody would suggest that a cable should at once be sent to be delivered to him in Port Said asking him to come back, nor do I think that any of the members on this side of the House or the other would suggest that an immediate cable should be sent to England saying that Travancore wants to withdraw from the exhibition altogether. As a citizen of this State I cannot make up my mind even for a moment to make the suggestion. I am sure very few people will do so because the honor of the country is very dear to us all. Mr. Madhava Variar said that the exhibition is but an entertainment. The letter E is common to both the terms. But I do not see how the exhibition is an entertainment except in an extended sense. If Mr. Variar means that the scientific faculties or industrial experience of the world is to be an entertainment, the exhibition is an entertainment. It is an entertainment in no other fashion and no other sense. It has been said that Mr. Gopala Menon who is in England might have been directed to look after this exhibition. I have known Mr. Gopala Menon for a long time. He is a very intelligent man fit for any work, but

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai.]

I want him to use every moment of his time in England to his studies and to come out with remarkable success. I want him to get a world-wide reputation. By attending to the exhibition business lasting for about seven or eight months I do not want him to neglect the work for which he has been deputed. He should not be made to fritter away his time between his studies and the taxing responsibilities connected with the exhibition.

Mr. Krishna Aiyar points out that Cochin has not sent an officer from that State for the exhibition and asks us to follow that example. It is not for me to pronounce an opinion upon the wisdom of the Cochin Government; but I cannot congratulate Cochin on that, because if they are prepared to participate in the exhibition then they ought to have sent one of their own officers, but, possibly, they may have no officers fit to be so deputed and hence they have gone in for an outsider. Dr. Kunjan Pillai will be coming back with great experience. He will be able to tell us what is the particular industry that stands the chance of thriving in Travancore, which is the market for our properties, which of our manufactures are valued in England, which stands the chance of being valued in America, and where we have to look for purchasers. It will be conceded that Dr. Kunjan Pillai is a capable officer with sufficient experience of the country. He has gone about the country, and I think the only other officer, as pointed out by me before, who could have been deputed is the Director of Industries. That question however is not to be discussed now. If such persons come back to our country with their vision extended and their experience amplified they will be an asset to Travancore. Therefore, Sir, I say that apart from all differences of opinion with regard to the necessity for Travancore participating in the Empire Exhibition, I think that Travancore has sent one of the right men. I may also observe that other States such as Mysore, Baroda, even the Provincial Governments—Bengal, Bombay and Madras—all these have sent only Indians as representatives. It is a significant circumstance. If the object of those Governments was only to participate in the exhibition and advertise themselves, Europeans would have been sent at least from some of the above States. On the other hand we find the organising Secretary and most of the representatives sent for the exhibition are Indians and I think it is only because all these States want that these Indian officers should return to their country with sufficient experience and use their experience for the uplift of India as a whole. I do not see it possible for me to accept the argument of my friend Mr. Nidiry who said that if he had known that the amount was so much as it is now he would have taken a different view at the last budget. Expenditure, Sir, is not the most important thing. If we decide upon a course of action which will redound to the advantage of Travancore, I am for spending a larger amount rather than stint money and obtain bad results. In so far as the Government have decided that we should participate in the exhibition and as articles have been made to order and shipped to their destination and as the whole

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

world is looking forward to the Empire Exhibition as an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the excellent products of Travancore, I do not think for a moment that we shall be justified in asking Dr. Kunjan Pillai to come back or writing to the Empire Exhibition Committee that we want to recede from the undertaking. Whatever may be the difference of opinion about our participation, now that the Government have embarked upon that policy and have arranged even to the minutest detail, as honourable citizens of an honourable State we cannot withdraw. We have to keep our promises and therefore apart from the question of advisability of participation I am for allowing these funds. If a person goes to England we do not want him to go about like a pauper, whether he is a big officer or a small officer, when he represents the State. This is an important State and the office, must have sufficient comforts. He must have money enough to move about; otherwise Travancore will be the butt of redicule. I look forward to the time when our representative will come back with his vision extended and his experience enriched in order to take back upon himself the very responsible duties of the President of the Development Board and the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries. For these reasons I support the motion before the House.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, the objections to the motion have been already answered by my friends Messrs. Mammen Mappillai and T. K. Velu Pillai and I do not think I need answer them in detail. In regard to the deputation of Dr. Kunjan Pillai as the representative of this Government, I must say that the money spent on the exhibition would have been an utter waste if a capable and resourceful officer like Dr. Kunjan Pillai had not been sent. This is what the Commissioner for India says in regard to the deputation of representatives to the exhibition:

"The various provincial Governments and Indian States have, in compliance with the Commissioner's suggestion, deputed their special officers to go in charge of their exhibits to Wembly Park, so that those that have spent months in the collection and selection of the best, and economically, the most valuable exhibits of both raw and manufactured products, may be on the Exhibition grounds to explain to inquirers from all over the Empire the features of the exhibits in their respective stalls. These representatives will have special opportunities of studying the conditions and requirements of overseas markets and the opening there is for Indian products of various descriptions. They will return to India with a broadened outlook and with unique experience to serve their respective provinces and states."

So that the deputation of an officer was an absolute necessity. I find that some of the leading Indian States have sent more than one representative. Patiala and Bikanir, for example, have sent two representatives each.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Are those officers Directors of Industries or Directors of Agriculture.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If necessary I shall read out the names of the representatives sent from different States.

Bengal—Rao Bahadur J. M. Mitra, Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[President.]

Bombay—Mr. R. D. Asli, late Assistant to the Trade Commissioner.

The Punjab—Mr. L. Health, Controller of Arts and Crafts Depôt, Lahore.

Behar and Orissa—Mr. E. C. Ryland, Retired D. I. G. of Police, Behar and Orissa.

Madras—Rao Bahadur S. K. Sundaracharlu, Madras Civil Service.

Bikanir—(1) Mr. C. B. La Touche, Retired Manager, J. B. Railway.

(2) Mr. Brij Mohan Lal, Director, School of Arts, Bikanir.

Mysore—Mr. S. G. Sastri, M. sc., Industrial Chemist, Mysore Government.

Patiala—(1) Mr. S. Wajir Chand, Director of Sericulture, Patiala.

(2) Mr. M. W. Hutton, Taxidermist, Patiala.

Baroda—Mr. K. R. Dotivala, M. A.

Kashmir—Mr. D. N. Nagarakatti, Director of Commerce and Industries, Jammu and Kashmir.

All these States have sent their representatives, and it would have been a very serious omission if we had not sent our own representative. As regards the selection it was made by a non-official committee. Mr. Krishna Aiyar suggested that Mr. Gopala Menon's services could have been utilised in connection with the exhibition. That could not be done. In the first place he is holding a scholarship and is seriously engaged in his study. As a matter of fact his final examination comes off in April next and it would be a very serious matter if he is not permitted to join the examination. Further Mr. Gopala Menon is not well-versed in this matter, and he has had no practical knowledge of exhibitions. Dr. Kunjan Pillai it was who collected the exhibits and the selection was made at the instance of the non-official committee and he is therefore the best under the circumstances.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Has he got a thorough knowledge of the industries of the country?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*: He has been moving about the country and is, under the circumstances, the best officer for the purpose. I do not think that there is anything else for me to answer.

PRESIDENT: I shall now put the motion to the vote of the House.

The motion was put and carried 31 members, voting *for* and 6 *against*.

The grant was made.

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